

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 167725

ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 H-02 /015 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/CE:KHIGGINS:BJR

APPROVED BY EUR/CE:RBCASAGRANDE

H:MR. PUGH

R:RDVINE

-----115904 191731Z/47

R 191443Z JUL 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

UNCLAS STATE 167725

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CFED, GW

SUBJECT:CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY ON STATUS OF FRG

COMPENSATION REGULATIONS

1. FOLLOWING LETTER RECEIVED FROM OFFICE OF SENATOR  
CHARLES H. PERCY. BEGIN TEXT: DEAR SECRETARY BENNET: AS YOU  
MAY BE AWARE, SENATOR PERCY HAS LONG HAD GREAT INTEREST  
IN THOSE PERSONS OF GERMAN ANCESTRY WHO WERE EXPELLED FROM  
YUGOSLAVIA, HUNGARY AND ROMANIA AT THE END OF WORLD WAR II  
AND WHO SUBSEQUENTLY CAME TO THE UNITED STATES WHERE THEY  
HAVE BEEN EXEMPLARY CITIZENS.

WHEN THESE ETHNIC GERMANS WERE EXPELLED FROM EASTERN  
EUROPE, THEY LOST THEIR LIFE SAVINGS AND ALL THEIR  
PROPERTY.

IN OCT 1972, WHEN THE AMERICAN EMBASSY IN BONN  
INQUIRED OF THE FONOFF ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF  
HONORING THE COMPENSATION CLAIMS OF THIS GROUP, THE  
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PAGE 02 STATE 167725

FOREIGN OFFICE RESPONDED THAT THESE CLAIMS FAILED TO MEET  
THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 230 OF THE LAW ON THE EQUALIZA-  
TION OF BURDENS AND OF SECTION 38 PARAGRAPH 4 OF THE  
REPARATION DAMAGE LAW.

HOWEVER, AT THAT TIME, THE FOREIGN OFFICE ALSO STATED THAT  
APPROPRIATE GERMAN FEDERAL MINISTRIES, UNDER THE MANDATE

OF A BUNDESTAG RESOLUTION, WERE REVIEWING THE CITED  
REGULATIONS TO DETERMINE WHETHER, AND TO WHAT EXTENT, SOME  
LIBERALIZATION MIGHT STILL BE MADE.

IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO SENATOR PERCY IF THE AMERICAN  
EMBASSY IN BONN COULD PROVIDE HIM WITH INFORMATION  
REGARDING THE STATUS OF THE COMPENSATION ISSUE AND COULD  
ADVISE HIM WHETHER THE ETHNIC GERMANS NOW RESIDING IN THIS  
COUNTRY HAVE ANY REASON TO KEEP THEIR HOPES FOR COMPENSA-  
TION ALIVE. END TEXT.

2. REQUEST EMBASSY ASCERTAIN CURRENT SITUATION AND RESPOND  
TO DEPARTMENT, ATTN: EUR/CE AND H. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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